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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/069,235	02/22/2002	Bing Yang	02/23224	1413

7590

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EXAMINER

ALEXANDER, REGINALD

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1761

DATE MAILED: 05/07/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/009235

Applicant(s)

Yang et al.

Examiner

R. Alexander

Group Art Unit

1761

— The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address—

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____
- ☐ This action is **FINAL**.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- ☒ Claim(s) 1, 12-17 & 19 is/are rejected.
- ☒ Claim(s) 2-11, 18 & 20 is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement

Application Papers

- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner
- ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

- ☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d).
- ☐ All ☒ Some* ☐ None of the:
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____
 - ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a))

*Certified copies not received: WIPO stamped copies of Chinese patents

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____
- ☒ Notice of Reference(s) Cited, PTO-892
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- ☐ Other _____

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DETAILED ACTION

Specification

This application does not contain an abstract of the disclosure as required by 37 CFR 1.72(b). An abstract on a separate sheet is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Suk.

There is disclosed in Suk a pressure cooker, comprising: a cooking pot having an open end through which food articles are introduced, the cooking pot being formed with a plurality of circumferentially spaced locking flanges 9 extending radially inwardly; and a lid 7 removably attachable over the open end of the cooking pot, the lid being formed with a plurality of circumferentially spaced locking flanges 6 extending radially outwardly around its outer periphery.

Claims 12-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sebillotte.

There is disclosed in Sebillotte a pressure cooker, comprising: a cooking pot having an open end; a lid 2 removably attachable over the open end of the post and lockable thereto; a gripping handle 5 fixed to the lid; a gripping handle 6 fixed to the cooking pot; a venting valve 9 movable between an open and closed position; and a

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safety interlock 11, 12, 15, 21 within the gripping handle of the lid permitting rotation of the lid from one of its positions to the other only when the valve is in the open position and permitting movement of the valve from its open position to closed position only when the lid is in its locking position.

Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Beluzzi.

There is disclosed in Beluzzi a pressure cooker, comprising: a cooking pot; a lid; opposed gripping handles on the lid; and opposed gripping handles on the cooking pot; wherein a user is able to grasp by two hands one handle of the lid and one handle of the pot and to rotate the lid.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 17 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Beluzzi in view of Elexpuru.

Elexpuru discloses the use of a pressure release valve in the handle of a pressure cooker lid, the valve having a manually operated weight 11. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to substitute the pressure release valve of Beluzzi with that taught by Elexpuru, in order to allow manual actuation of the valve.

Allowable Subject Matter

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Claims 2-11, 18 and 20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The patent to Javier is cited for its disclosure of the state of the art.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Reginald L. Alexander whose telephone number is 703-308-1594. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Milton Cano can be reached on 703-308-3959. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-7718 for regular communications and 703-305-3599 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0661.

rla
May 5, 2003

Reginald L. Alexander
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1761

